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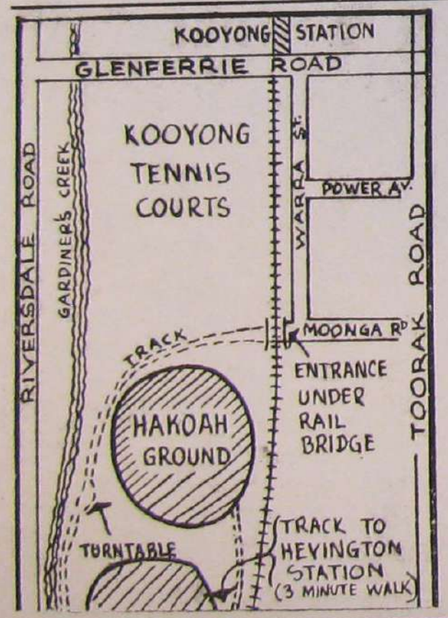

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In Today's Issue

BILL FLEMING on Soccer v. Fence Page 3

REX BENSON Home & Away Page 9

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1953

JIMMY TODD

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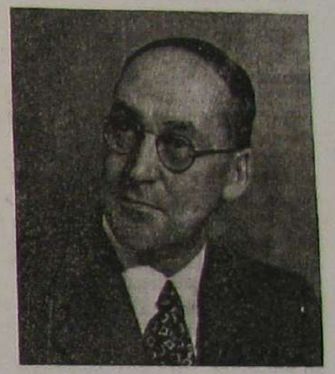
SOCCER NEWS

The Official Organ of the
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Approved for Sale in Tasmania by the Southern Tasmanian Soccer Association.

Vol. 6, No. 1. SATURDAY and MONDAY, APRIL 4 and 6, 1953

Our President's Message



It is with complete confidence that we can look forward to the 1953 Season which is upon us today, for it is obvious to all that Soccer has advanced with tremendous strides since this time last year.

At last we can follow Soccer in Victoria at enclosed grounds other than Olympic Park, for both the Hakoah and Moreland clubs now have obtained enclosed grounds on which to play their matches.

So it is that Soccer here advances to the status which it has already attained long ago in other countries of the world.

This rapid progress has only been possible through a spirit of "Unity" which has created a feeling of envy in other sporting circles. The trite remark that "Unity is Strength" has never been more aptly quoted than in reference to Victorian Soccer.

It is my firm conviction that whilst this spirit of unity endures Soccer in Victoria cannot fail to go from strength to strength. So let us forward to the greatest season Soccer has ever had since its foundation in Victoria.

E. B. COLES,
President,
Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association.

For Facts and Fixtures—The V.A.S.F.A. Handbook

On Sale at all Grounds in Victoria today.

Editorial

All communications re Soccer News must be sent to The Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.8, by first post on Monday.

Little argument will be required to convince our readers that 1953 will be a "boom" year in Victorian soccer.

First and foremost, we have the glad tidings that both the Hakoah and Moreland clubs will be playing on their own enclosed grounds—the first step to greatness.

Hakoah's new ground at St. Kevin's oval, Heyington (behind Kooyong tennis ground), is capable of development into a fine stadium, and the team of stars that the Jewish club has got together will undoubtedly draw the crowds.

Moreland also has a strong side. With the fencing the club is erecting round Campbell Reserve (with the permission of the Coburg council) it should also be able to attract and entertain large crowds this year. The "fans" will have the opportunity of watching two first-class League games weekly this season, for it is intended that one League game shall be played on Saturday, and, when possible, one also on a Sunday at Olympic Park.

This does not mean that the Sunday international (Laidlaw Cup) games will not be played. As the season progresses this competition will be fitted in with the League games, as will also the State Trials as in former years.

Plans are in hand to bring an overseas team to Australia this season, but to date nothing has been finalised. However, it can be disclosed that negotiations have been going on between the A.S.F.A. and both the Swedish and U.S.A. football associations. It is anticipated, provided arrangements do not clash with any overseas touring team, that Victoria will visit Queensland in June to play three matches. The Bananalanders have been keen to entice our lads north ever since the nasty shock we gave them at the Interstate Carnival last year. There is no doubt that on their own harder grounds they would be more at home than they were on the Toorak Park mud-patch.

Readers will have noticed that this edition of Soccer News differs considerably from previous years. When once the shock of the increased price has been got over, we hope our readers will appreciate the necessity for it, and also the tremendous amount of effort that has gone into the "New-look" Soccer News. It is felt that it is high time a fuller and more comprehensive coverage of the game should be presented to the Victorian public.

Today it will be seen that we have many new features, including Bill Fleming, who will write us a "leader" each week, and Charles Walker, whose sound knowledge of past and present continental football and breezy style will be of great interest to both old and new Australians. Our old friend, Alex Barr, is this year running a full page on Scottish football, and newcomer Ted Pridgeon, an ex-English football writer, will cover English soccer. We still have with us John Hawker, who has for the last two years

(Continued on page 21)

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THE CASE OF SOCCER VERSUS FENCE

By BILL FLEMING

There is a nigger in the woodpile somewhere. Perhaps it is that character from "Take it from Here" —Rudolph, but whoever, or whatever it is soccer has them scared.

So scared that no matter what happens soccer must not get a place in the sun. AND no enclosed grounds—no fence—oh, no!—definitely no fence.

It is obvious to anyone that the objection to our progress is very strong and the weapons being used are atomic.

Think back:

Hakoah offered the Brunswick City Council £8000 for a ground that wasn't worth £3000, and the Brunswick City Fathers grabbed on to the idea like a kid grabs an ice cream cone on a mid-summer day, but Rudolph got to work—so no fence. I saw a man waiting in the precincts of the Council with a petition signed by 300 ratepayers protesting against the iniquity of a fence. Do you honestly think 300 names would really prevent or influence a council from accepting a sweet offer like the Hakoah one? It didn't, of course. Rudolph jumped the fence first.

The Soccer Council spent an entire Sunday morning at Albert Park, then offered the trustees £1000 towards the cost of fencing the former rubbish tip. Pat Kennelly, by sheer ingenuity and hard work, and incidentally almost no money, has transformed the smelly, unsightly tip into a first-class oval and cycling track.

The Albert Park Trust accepted the Soccer Council offer, but they forgot Rudolph. He nibbled at the South Melbourne Council and to date no fence.

The case, Soccer v. Fence, didn't end there. It went to State Cabinet, and Mr. Cain, Premier, and his colleagues said they approved of the fencing, but was Rudolph beaten? Not a bit of it. He dropped into the Trades Hall and kicked up such a fuss that no one dared to enclose the former dump. And this, mark you, despite the fact that the Government of the State had given approval.

Coburg Council, by five votes to four, favored the enclosing of Campbell Reserve, but to date not a splinter has been placed on the ground, far less a post—at least at this moment of writing. (Continued on page 24)

Do you want your Club to succeed in 1953?

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V.A.S.F.A. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Club secretaries and officials are reminded that this column will be used each week to inform clubs of decisions made by council and the league management. All information therein will, therefore, be taken as having been notified officially to clubs. Notices of meetings, resolutions passed at meetings, instructions to clubs, and alterations to club addresses, etc., will be published throughout the season.

Results of Matches.

All clubs are reminded that results must be telephoned not later than 5.15 p.m. each Saturday and on any other day that games may be played, to the Secretary (Tel.: UY 8347). Clubs failing to observe this ruling will be fined 15/- for the first offence, and may be fined up to £5 (five pounds) for further offences. All scores will be forwarded by the secretary of the V.A.S.F.A. to the Press and Broadcasting Stations.

League Fixtures.

Third Division.—Woodlands have withdrawn and their place will be taken by Frankston.

Fourth Division.—Clubs drawn against Frankston will now treat this fixture as a bye.

Fourth Division Reserves.—Ringwood Reserves have been included in this division and will fill the fixtures where a bye has been made.

Change of Grounds.

Ringwood has vacated Bedford Park and will now play all its matches on the Nunawading sports ground adjacent to Nunawading station.

Alteration to Fixtures printed in V.A.S.F.A. Handbook:—

Clubs are reminded that fixtures for Reserve teams cannot be altered unless permission is received from the Association.

SOCCER SPOTLIGHT FROM 3UZ

Sir,—I wish to advise you that "Soccer Spotlight" will be featured from 3UZ each Saturday morning from 9.25 to 9.45 which commenced on Saturday, March 28.

It will be noticed that my time has been extended from fifteen to twenty minutes.—Yours, etc., TED LAW.

THE "AGE" NEW CORRESPONDENT

Readers will wish to join with the members of Soccer News committee in congratulating Mr. Alex Barr, of Soccer News, on his appointment as soccer correspondent to the "Age."

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TARTAN TOPICS

By ALEX. BARR

Introducing the first article under this heading tends to be a "wee" bit difficult. Up-to-date information is rather hard to acquire. However, it is my hope that the "news" that I bring you will be more up to the minute than that which my readers would normally receive. I do trust that I will have some readers!

Smog and fog and inclement weather played havoc with Scottish football last season. Nevertheless, the true indication of football skill is proven by the fact that, at the top of the First Division ladder, we find East Fife, and at the bottom the unfortunate clubs who will find their way into the Second Division.

Introducing something of interest in the way of personalities, "THE FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR 1952" was Willie Thornton, the centre-forward of Rangers F.C. Apparently, it is unanimous that he is the player without an enemy. To achieve such recognition in professional football after thirteen years' First Division play is truly an honor.

Dundee football club intend going on a fourteen game safari to South Africa, provided the terms exceed the £25,000 guarantee that the S.A. Association aim to make. Alf Boyd, of Dundee, once rumored as coach for the U.A.S.F.A., will go to the Marist Brothers in Johannesburg.

Rangers football club staged two mid-week games under floodlighting as a test for their lighting system. They asked for 6d. donation for charity. Notwithstanding extremely wintry weather, £800 was collected for Glasgow Hospitals.

Over to the east, Gordon Smith, one of Scotland's sparkling players, is suffering from a common complaint in football called "soccer toe" (incidentally, actually, the small fracture of a small bone).

Hibs. are advertised in a Brussels newspaper, which announces their forthcoming match with Austria F.C., which, incidentally, is billed as "THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF EUROPE." Prices range from 4/- to £1.

Shades of the Past! Arthur Dixon, of Rangers fame (now training Partick Thistle), now has a son representing Glasgow schoolboys. In the same team is the famous Gerry Dawson's son Bobby, aged fifteen, who, in the opinion of Rangers' followers, should have been brought up as a right full-back, as a tribute to Dougie Gray. (Continued on page 20)

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Floodlight Football in S. Aust.

"Missed Chances Lose Victoria Game"

By ERIC HEATH

At the Norwood Oval on Monday night, March 23, Victoria, playing its first game under lights, was beaten 2-0 by South Australia. The score does not give a true indication of the game. The Victorians had 70 per cent. of the game, particularly in the last twenty minutes, when they overran the South Australians and did everything but get the ball in the net.

As Angus Drennen led out the Victorian team the ground looked a picture of perfection under the electric lights. Both teams were given a grand reception by the large crowd which had been looking forward to this match as a climax to their first season under lights. Victoria kicked off and immediately went into the attack. After five minutes' play Pitoni (Vic.) handled the ball just outside the penalty area where there was little danger of South Australia scoring. Centre-forward Knob took the kick and his shot struck a defender, hit the post, rebounded on to Heath (Victorian right-back) and finally entered the net—a very fortunate goal, but still one that counted. After a bit of mid-field play, where Bassi, Drennen and Lachmann were prominent, Caldarevic fastened on to a pass from Lachmann and put in a terrific shot which struck the upright with Ritossa hopelessly beaten. For the rest of the first half the game was even, with the ball travelling quickly from end to end. Busidoni, South Australia captain and centre-half, was proving a real thorn in the Victorians' side as he cut out pass after pass. His work when the ball was in the air was magnificent.

Half-time score, 1-0.

The Victorians had settled down fairly well to their first match under lights, but it was noticeable that at times when the ball was in the air they were not sure of themselves and lost the ball in the glare of the light.

Victorians immediately went into the attack when the game restarted, and it seemed as if they must score. Time after time the ball was sent across the goal mouth, only requiring the finishing touch to give them that much-needed goal, but each chance was frittered away as players seemed to lose the ball in the glaring lights. Midway through the second half Knob got control of the ball, beat Zblocki skilfully, broke through the Victorian defence, then from 12 yards the ball left his foot like a rocket. Rising no more than two inches from the ground, it entered the net not six inches inside the foot of the post, and giving Czauderna no chance. It was a goal worth going many miles to see. This goal only seemed to spur the Victorians on to greater efforts and they kept up a constant attack, but the goal seemed to bear a charmed life. Three times the upright or crossbar was hit by the unlucky Victorian forwards. Towards the end of the game Drennen, seeing Mouchka well upfield and unmarked, slipped the ball back to him. He carried it forward a few yards and put in one of the finest shots of the game only to see Ritossa bring off a remarkable save. It was an effort well worthy of a goal. Mouchka had been playing an inspiring game, rarely putting a foot wrong.

When the final whistle went the Victorians were still on the attack—beaten, but only by the score. (Continued on page 8)

WHEN IN ALBURY, Meet the Border District Boys at

JIM O'DONNELL'S

TOWN HALL HOTEL

Europe Calling

By CHARLES WALKER

This is to introduce to you, reader, the past and present set-up in Continental soccer. Many of you who followed it for years, can still remember the famous players and teams which we in this country were denied the opportunity to see in action.

Continental soccer between the two wars was mainly dominated by Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Italy and Spain, with Germany, Sweden, France and Switzerland forming the second string of soccer powers. One could never forget the Austrian wonder team, with Hiden, Schall, Vogel, and Sindelar, etc.; the Czechs, with Planicka, Kada and Svoboda; the Hungarians, with Schaffer, Orth, the Vogel brothers, and later Dr. Sarosi; Italy, with imported Argentinians, Cesarini, Orsi, and local players, Meazza and Piola (who is still playing), and Spain with Alcantara and Zomorra, the best goalkeeper ever seen on a soccer ground.

I left out Great Britain on purpose, because it is not a continental soccer power, though it was, and still is, the strongest soccer nation in the world, notwithstanding the fact that they slip now and again, like losing to the U.S.A. during the world championship in Brazil in 1950. Teams like the Austrian wonder team played a more spectacular game than England, but certainly not as purposeful.

While pointing out famous players from National teams, it is only right to mention those clubs from which the majority of the players were selected.

Austrian soccer was always dominated by the following teams: Austria, Rapid, Vienna, and Admira, and because of their equal standard the championship was never decided until the last game or two of the competition; it was very rarely that another team had any say in the matter.

Those teams played the carpet pattern game, similar to that which is played in Scotland (slow passes, etc.), with the exception of Rapid, whose style of play was similar to that of England. It was the famous Rapid's last 15 minutes (Rapidviertelstunde), which could convert defeat into a most spectacular victory. Players from this team were worshipped, and many songs were composed in heir honor.

Hungary had her famous trio, Hungaria, Ferencvaros and Ujpasti, amongst whom the League premier was always to be found. Also here, as was the case with Austrian teams, Hungaria and Ferencvaros played "Scottish soccer" and Ujpasti "English soccer."

In Czechoslovakia, the outstanding teams were Slovia and Sparta, who played a different brand of soccer. By the way, Slovia has had a Scottish coach for years. There was also Victoria-Zirkov D.F.C., Bohemians-Vrsovice, etc. The lastnamed toured Australia about 1926, and on their (Continued on page 23)

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Referees' Query Corner

This Query Corner will be conducted weekly. Queries are invited from supporters, players and officials. All questions, with answers, will be published in the Soccer News (space permitting).

Queries should be addressed to FRANK S. WESTLEY, 42 The Crescent, Highett, S.21.

O.H.T. (Glen Iris) asks: A free kick was given for a foul outside penalty area against defenders. Referee placed the ball and ran, pointing in direction the kick was to be taken, but did not blow his whistle. A goal was scored and allowed. The defenders appealed because they stated that the referee must blow his whistle to restart the game.

Answer: As the referee pointed in the direction the kick was to be taken, that, therefore, was a signal. There was no need to blow the whistle.

Goalkeeper (Morwell) asks: May I be charged in my own area?

Answer: Yes, providing you are holding the ball or obstructing an opponent, and that the charge is fair, i.e., shoulder to shoulder.

"Hotspur" (Brighton) asks: What would you have done when refereeing under these circumstances: A winger, thinking he had been fouled, retaliated by striking his opponent, and an opposing back in his own penalty area in anticipation caught the ball before play was stopped.

Answer: Send striker off the field and give a penalty against the back for handling.

A Junior Referee says he awarded a defending side a direct free kick outside the penalty area; one of the backs took the kick, and passed back to the goalkeeper who missed it, and it went into the net. He gave a goal, and was told afterwards he was wrong. He asks me to tell him if he was in error.

Answer: I am afraid he made a mistake. A direct free kick against the offending side may result in a goal. In this case a goal has not been scored against the offending side.

Floodlight Football in S.A.—(continued)

It was a game where the height advantages of both defences called the tune over the smaller forwards.

For Victoria Mouchka starred and was well supported by Drennen and Zblocki. Bassi also played well, but was not the dominating Bassi Victoria knows. The forwards tried hard but had little luck. Busidoni gave a masterful performance for South Australia. Some of his work, particularly in the air, was classic.

The Victorian players were of the opinion that it would take two or three games to become accustomed to the lighting which, although quite good, could be improved.

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HOME and AWAY

By REX BENSON

★

SPRINGBOK TOUR PRECAUTIONS

The South Africans will be touring England during the next Summer. To avoid "poaching" of their players (Charlton Athletic have seven on their books) each player must sign a form that he will not sign for a professional club for at least two years.

MUSICAL CHAIRS

How they switch around, Copeland (from Juventus to Hakoah), Drennen (from Sunshine United to J.U.S.T.), Caldarevic (from J.U.S.T. to Polonia), Stoddart (from Brighton to J.U.S.T.), Barr (from Brighton to Prahran). Any player still with his last year's club, please notify us.

SHORT AND SWEET

Allan Duckworth made his football league debut with Accrington Stanley on May 4, 1932. He scored after four minutes, went off injured after 20 minutes, and never played again.

NIGHT SOCCER

Flood-lit soccer is of topical interest after the visit of a State side to Adelaide. Now spare a tear for Brazilian League stars. Used to playing evening matches, a long drought has meant a drastic electricity cut, and league games have had to be played recently in the blazing day-time heat.

NEW COACH

Will the fortunes of South Melbourne change this year with the arrival of Jack Wilson? They escaped the "drop" last season by a whisker, some critics blaming them for not pursuing their former policy of bringing along their own good young players.

WHITE BALL CONTROVERSY

The white waterproofed ball has been used a good deal in Melbourne during bad weather, and especially at Dandenong. Referees in England have now recommended that it be used throughout a match or not at all. It is a known fact that some players, particularly goalkeepers, do not relish the change during a game as the white one tends to be more slippery.

POSER FOR REFEREES

After five minutes' play in a Reserve match a player was called off the field by the club secretary, receiving the referee's permission. He was told to play for the First team, who were a man short, on an adjoining pitch. Was this an order? Not, according to an official decision by the Council in England on 6/3/39. He must not take part in any other game until that in which he started has ended.

STERN MEASURES TAKEN

To get to Hampden Park one may walk up Battlefield Road. When this was named I do not know, but such were the riots after the 1909 Scottish Cup final that the Association withheld both the cup and the medals.

SNOWS *"for men who care what they wear"*

TASMANIAN TALKS

By BOB EASTERBROOK

With the opening of the new season, congratulations must go to Southern Tasmanian Soccer Association for permitting the sale in southern Tasmania of Soccer News, the official paper of the Victorian Amateur Soccer Association. All clubs and supporters will rally to the support of such a paper, lack of which has been sadly felt in Tasmania.

Last season the Southern Tasmanian League consisted of seven clubs. This year so far only five have applied for affiliation, with a possibility of a sixth being added. The demise of Hobart Wanderers and Moonah Athletic is regretted by all sport loving fans. The former were a decided asset to the League and set a very high standard of play. At the commencement of last season their game seemed to have deteriorated, having lost much of their power, sparkle and combined skill, compared to prior years. Towards the close of the season they appeared rejuvenated, and improved beyond all recognition, defeating Metro (League champions) in the semi-final of the Falkinder Cup, and losing to Caledonians by the odd goal in three in the final.

Quite a few players from both clubs have sought pastures new, most notable being J. Young, Wanderers' brilliant goalkeeper, who has thrown in his lot with the Scots, but owing to business reasons will only participate when required. What an understudy to J. McReadie. J. Lynch (centre-half), so far unsigned—what he lacks in inches is made up by his all-round soccer ability. A find for some club, but it would take a Philadelphia lawyer to sign him. Johnny, in my humble estimation, is a positive enigma. Then Keith McKriel, left-back, has all-round ability—a young player with a great future. Unfortunately, Keith is under doctor's orders with ankle trouble and will not be available for a month or two. Now, don't all rush at once! Coming to Moonah, we have that very commendable player, Alec Mackie, inside-left, who, I believe, has signed for Hobart United. Congratulations, United; you did a good bit of work here and forestalled at least two clubs.

Metro, League champions, seem all set for another good season, under the able management of Mr. Blackburn and their star and coach, J. Acquaroff. Yes, Jack is a marvel for his years and enjoys his game like a two-year-old. Metro will not be far from the top at the end of the season where the honors are concerned.

The Cup holders, **Caledonians**, with their energetic officials and ladies' social club, are a hive of activity. All last season's players are available, with the exception of J. Dykes, who, I believe, has given up the game. Several new Scots have been signed, most notable, W. Smith, of Metro (inside-right), a marvellous ball manipulator; and another, W. Smith (inside-left), of Sandy Bay. The latter played for my home-town team, Ardrossan Rovers, and is a decided asset. Both players should add strength to the forward line. Having seen the Caledonians in three friendly games, I predict a grand season for them. (Continued on page 22)

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N.S.W. ALL-OUT TO REGAIN SUPREMACY

By BILL ORR, Secretary N.S.W.S.F.A.

Following its record club season in 1952, there will be no changes in the N.S.W. soccer set up for the coming year. Attendance records were smashed on almost all club grounds, and in one prominent district, the South Coast area, the code has supplanted Rugby League as the No. 1 winter sport.

From its rather struggling financial position some two years ago, the N.S.W. Soccer Football Association Limited has risen to a position of comparative affluence, and this is ascribed to the wise policy of the Board of Directors in appointing a full-time secretary.

This has resulted in a tightening up of all club administration, increase of the code's prestige in Press and Radio circles, and a general recognition by all these people of the directors' determination to push the game forward.

Clubs have also been made to realise that the improvement in the standard of play, which the directors are determined to achieve, means the "survival of the fittest."

Major clubs which have enjoyed all of the State's honors in the last ten years, are now less content to rest on their laurels awaiting a new season because they see the lesser clubs sponsor the schemes which inevitably must mean success.

The Gladesville-Ryde club, last year's "wooden spoonists," offer a typical example of new initiative of the lower placed clubs. This club's management, realising that it had few top liners and that the transfers of leading players were almost impossible to obtain, embarked upon an ambitious scheme to rebuild the major eleven with a framework of English players.

Through splendid organisation, six players of good quality (four from English Third Division teams, and two from the Newcastle United reserve side) are on their way to Sydney to play for the Gladesville-Ryde club.

The second lowest team in the 1952 competition, North Shore, is negotiating with a former English international player (still active) to come to Sydney as a player coach. This team, incidentally, already has acquired the services as temporary coach of Bob Miller, former Glasgow Celtic full back.

The schemes of these two lowlier clubs of 1952 have made the bigger clubs sit up and take notice; they no doubt realise that while they are on top today, the lesser teams, by virtue of their initiative, may easily alter all that tomorrow.

Now we find that practically every big club is questing for a top class coach, who must be conversant with the latest British or continental methods. Previously, those big clubs were content to rely upon the natural skill of their players who had that "little bit extra" over their lowlier opponents.

The Association itself is also vigorously pushing the introduction of a general coaching scheme. This is devised to teach coaches the modern (Continued on page 12)

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N.S.W. ALL-OUT—*(continued)*

requirements, and schoolmasters, junior officials and major team coaches are to be taught the latest methods which they in turn will impart to the schoolboy, junior, and senior players under their control.

The N.S.W. association is extremely fortunate to have in New South Wales Mr. Vivian Chalwin, of the F.A., who is not only a keen student of all coaching methods, but a fully certificated master coach of the F.A. A close friend of Walter Winterbottom (greatest of all coaches), Mr. Chalwin is fully acquainted with the courses for students, the type of examinations required, and above all with Australia's shortcomings so far as its international aspirations are concerned.

More than anything else, however, Victoria's convincing victory in the 1952 interstate carnival brought home forcibly to New South Wales soccer peoples the necessity to "tighten up."

There is no doubt that Victoria was too good for the New South Wales team, and most soccer folks in New South Wales hailed that as a good sign so far as Australian soccer is concerned. It has certainly caused a shake up and awakened every administrator in associations and clubs to the necessities associated with keeping pace with its opponents. Victoria has certainly given a grand lead to all other States in the furtherance of coaching, and it now can be safely said that New South Wales has also "seen the light."

We shall all hope for great interstate contests in the years ahead and the clashes between Victoria and New South Wales should attract many thousands of people. Other States, realising the organising of coaching in Victoria and New South Wales, will no doubt follow suit, and the future interstate carnivals will accordingly attract many new fans. Above all, it will lead to a much higher standard of play throughout Australia, and in due course we shall hope to contest world supremacy with other soccer loving countries.

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South Australian News

Timely indeed were the statements issued by a civic leader and a sport representative last week advocating the establishment by the Adelaide City Council of a second major city oval to fulfil the needs of such sports as soccer and baseball.

Councillor H. E. Holland, of the Adelaide City Council, initiated the discussion when he stated, in his advocacy of a new oval, that while many people enjoyed watching the national games of cricket and football on the Adelaide Oval, there were many who would support international contests in sports of other countries.

The Chairman of the S.A. Soccer Football Association (Mr. R. Telfer) immediately took up the cry when, in a Press statement, he urged the establishment of such an oval as an area of about 14 acres, adjoining the Port Adelaide side of the Railways Oval and facing the Port Road.—Soccer Mirror (S.A.).

[All First Division teams in South Australia are now playing on enclosed grounds.]

HINT ON SHADED AREA AT NORWOOD OVAL

Mr. W. Hillam, Woodside Soccer Club coach, who writes for the Soccer Mirror (S.A.), was a recent visitor to the floodlit games at Norwood Oval. In a letter this week, he offers this mild criticism of the arrangements:—

"There appeared to be just a little too much shade around the penalty 'box' to the corner flags, more noticeable in the twilight during the first game. The keeper could be really confusing in a mix-up, with opposing players wearing the same color guernsey."

See the M.S.D. for

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THE ENGLISH SCENE

By TED PRIDGEON

Blackpool and Bolton—an all-Lancashire Cup final! Arsenal, Newcastle, Preston North End, Portsmouth, Aston Villa—all renowned Cup fighters—have been eliminated from the fray, and the North-west England fans can "cock a snoot" at the fallen mighty and prepare for their trek south for the great day! And what a day that is! One wonders whether the fact that both finalists this year being north of England teams will once again raise the controversial "Why Wembley every year?" topic. It is only a year since I left the Old Country and being actively employed there as a sports editor, I was only too well acquainted with the cry, "Why not share it round the country?" And always the answer, "There is only one Wembley!" That seemed to suffice, but this year, with an all-Lancashire final, I can well imagine the embers being once again stirred to life.

There is, we know, a lot of luck attached to a team reaching the final. Luck and skill—but neither without the other. I have always thought that the League tables are the most indicative barometer of fortunes of the game. Let's have a look at the story told in this issue from the current tables printed below.

Manchester City (shades of the mighty Dougherty!) and Derby County struggle against the relegation bogy! What a stir in the game this position creates. It is not so long since the City got back into the First Division after a spell in the lower sphere—but Derby County—well, one is more used to seeing them topping the division than holding the rest up!

Huddersfield and Sheffield United look strong challengers for the Senior Division. To my mind, in fact, they have the issue virtually clinched. At the foot of the Second Division, Barnsley seemed doomed to fall—and with them, that grand team, Southampton. Higher up this table I note Everton safe and secure for yet another season "down below." How well I remember their fall from grace three years ago!

"It won't be for ever," said the sensible Goodison Park fan.

"We'll be back up again next year," shouted the 30,000 strong Cuppites.

"You've had it, chums, for the next ten years," jeered the rival Liverpool supporters.

But, throughout, sportsmen everywhere regretted that such a fine team, and ground, were lost to the Senior Division. Well, there they are—without glory—safely esconced about mid-way in the table—for yet another season.

'Way down south, Walsall are doomed to reapply. Note that no less than a round 40 points (approximately) separate the top and bottom teams in this division! What a discrepancy! The two Bristol teams have been giving the fans a run for their money. Both are contestants for the higher division and only Northampton look capable of splitting them. It has evidently been a mighty season for Bristolites!

Comparative newcomers to the division, Colchester United and Shrewsbury Town, have had varying fortunes. The former have made their position secure, but Shrewsbury will not be certain of re-election if they are forced to apply!

The Third Northern Division shows the top three teams running away from the field. Note Mansfield 'way down. They are creating soccer history, just now having placed ALL their professional players on the open transfer list! Falling attendances have created the circumstance. I understand that the receipts against expenses show a weekly deficit of £200 ! ! ! This falling attendance, by the way, is reflected similarly throughout all the divisions! What a pity. Ah, well—that's soccer! Come wind, hail, rain or snow—or falling receipts—the game will go on!

ENGLISH LEAGUE TABLES ON PAGE 17

"The Feminine Angle"

with ROSA ROTHFIELD

Dear Ladies, Wives, Mothers, Sisters and Sweethearts of Soccer Players, also all feminine followers of that wonderful game,—Lend me your ears. As you all know, since the emancipation of women, we have really gone places. Nothing is beyond our power and capabilities, to shine in Parliament, Politics on International Scale, the Legal Bar, Medicine and numerous careers in public life, but never, never did I dream that we would penetrate into that Holy of Holies, that Mecca of Masculinity—Soccer News.

And now, ladies, we have a page all to ourselves to vent forth our opinions, to praise or scold as the case may be, our men folk who are interested in the greatest game of sport so dear to all our hearts. For in face of steady feminine pressure our Editor's resistance has collapsed and 1953 season sees the "Woman's Viewpoint" "IN." (Poor innocents, as if any other point of view matters!)

In this page you will read of the activities of various ladies' committees, which will endeavor to raise funds and comforts for their clubs. To this page also we invite you to send your letters with suggestions or criticisms. These we will print (with the editor's permission) in due course.

Talking about ladies' committees, I hear that Juventus ladies had done a terrific job for their club! Headed by energetic Mrs. N. Borsari, her committee of seven ladies (with auxiliary help on occasions) raised a lot of money whenever the boys played on their home grounds by sending out collectors for voluntary contributions from the crowds, who were always more generous with their donations if approached by attractive ladies; they served coffee and sandwiches to their team, and also organised a dance every Friday night in the hall of St. George's Church, with members free and a nominal fee to the visitors; they ran a very successful lottery once a year, also a Ball, which I believe was the highlight of the year! *There* is an energetic committee from which we can learn a lot of good points! Good luck! Come, Bello! Mi fa molto piacere!

Moreland Club has also done a lot, and they can be well proud of their achievements. Mrs. Lock and her active committee of 10 ladies raised the handsome sum of £60 last year. They had erected a canvas top cover under which they serve tea and biscuits, for which they charge ninepence (the boys are served free). This year an addition of electric six-gallon urn will help to serve more cups of tea, and with a few more ideas in their capable minds, I feel sure they will do really well this coming year. Good work, Moreland!

Jack Skolnik tells me that Hakoah Club, whose new grounds are at St. Kevin's, is very anxious to start a ladies' committee this season, and is

(Continued on page 16)

Win or Lose . . . Relax after the Game at

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"The Feminine Angle"—continued

looking for a capable lady organiser. Any volunteers? If so, kindly get in touch with Mr. Jack Skolnik.

Looking back to last year's season, I remember what pleasure and excitement and what wealth of color there was in every game we watched, the keen spirit of the players, the wonderful enthusiasm of the spectators. It is true that on a few occasions there was just a shade too much enthusiasm, but it all added to color! The different nationalities, and languages one heard all about, the pleasant brogue of Scots, the melodious Italian, the unintelligible Polish or Ukrainian — why, sometimes I imagined myself somewhere in Europe instead of Olympic Park.

The beautiful Italian girls! The cheer leaders with their national flags and fantastic enthusiasm! The games played in rain, with flocks of birds settling on the other end of the grounds from the players, and the beautiful weather at the end of the season when the mounds around Olympic Park were covered by *reclining* spectators watching the game in the sun!

The color and pageantry of Scottish Band players, who performed on a few Sundays, the groups of Italian singers sitting on the lawns with a guitarist singing their folk songs, the children and dogs running occasionally right on to the ground. A spectacle worthy to be made into a film for the Department of Information (that gives me an idea!) and, above all, the keen wish coupled with intense excitement to see your favorite team win. Why, just remembering all that makes me hardly wait for the season to start.

Let us all look forward to this coming season with pleasure and anticipation to wonderful games played cleanly and keenly by our men folk and share in their triumphs of what is in my opinion the nicest game of sportsmanship of them all. Good Luck and Cheerio.

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English and Scottish League Tables

ENGLISH LEAGUE TABLES

First Division

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
Wolverhampton	16	11	8	68-52	43
Burnley	16	10	7	54-36	42
Arsenal	15	11	7	74-49	41
Preston N.E.	16	9	7	68-49	41
Carlton Ath.	16	9	8	65-49	41
West Brom. Alb.	18	5	11	55-50	41
*BLACKPOOL	15	7	11	60-55	37
Sunderland	13	11	10	58-60	37
Manchester Utd.	14	7	12	53-53	35
Tottenham H.	12	8	13	62-51	32
*BOLTON W.	12	8	12	48-52	32
Cardiff City	10	11	11	37-31	31
Newcastle Utd.	11	9	14	50-56	31
Liverpool	12	7	14	50-60	31
Sheffield Wed.	11	8	16	50-58	30
Portsmouth	11	8	15	56-65	30
Aston Villa	9	10	13	45-49	28
Middlesborough	9	9	16	48-69	27
Chelsea	9	8	16	43-54	26
Stoke City	9	8	16	43-55	26
Manchester City	10	6	17	55-69	26
Derby County	9	6	19	44-63	24

*Denotes finalists of F.A. Cup, 1952-53.

Second Division

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
Sheffield Utd.	22	7	6	85-45	51
Huddersfield	19	9	6	65-26	47
Luton Town	19	5	9	71-40	43
Plymouth Arg.	17	7	10	53-46	41
Notts Forest	16	7	11	68-53	39
Birmingham	15	8	10	57-54	38
Leicester City	14	9	11	77-67	37
Leeds United	12	12	10	58-48	36
Fulham	14	8	12	62-56	36
West Ham Utd.	11	13	10	47-41	35
Rotherham Utd.	15	4	16	66-66	34
Swansea Town	12	10	12	64-68	34
Blackburn R.	13	7	15	51-56	33
Brentford	12	7	14	50-60	31
Doncaster R.	8	14	12	46-55	30
Everton	9	11	12	54-51	29
Notts County	11	7	16	53-75	29
Hull City	11	6	16	46-57	28
Lincoln City	6	15	12	44-62	27
Bury Town	9	9	16	42-63	27
Southampton	6	10	18	50-74	22
Barnsley	5	7	22	42-88	17

All teams now eliminated from F.A. Cup.

Third Division (Southern)

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
Bristol Rovers	23	9	3	79-31	55
Bristol City	19	11	6	83-49	49
Northampton	20	7	8	84-53	47
Millwall Ath.	18	10	7	58-34	46
Norwich City	19	7	9	72-40	45
Coventry City	17	8	11	67-50	42
Watford	13	13	10	52-54	39
Southend Utd.	15	8	13	55-58	38
Brighton Albion	13	10	13	58-63	36
Bournemouth A.	14	6	15	55-57	34
Exeter City	11	12	14	53-55	34
Colchester Utd.	11	11	12	44-45	33
Reading	13	7	15	49-52	33
Gillingham	10	13	13	41-51	33
Queen's Park R.	9	15	12	54-68	33
Ipswich Town	11	10	14	46-51	32
Aldershot T.	10	11	14	51-59	31
Leyton Orient	11	8	16	50-56	30
Torquay Utd.	11	8	17	64-74	30
Newport City	12	6	18	57-69	30
Swindon Town	10	9	17	49-64	29
Crystal Palace	10	9	16	52-69	29
Shrewsbury T.	10	9	17	53-70	29
Walsall	5	7	25	45-99	17

Third Division (Northern)

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
Oldham Ath.	18	10	8	65-39	46
Port Vale Ath.	16	13	7	50-27	45
Grimsby Town	18	9	11	65-42	45
Wrexham	19	6	11	68-55	44
Carlisle Utd.	16	10	12	68-48	42
Crewe Alex.	18	6	13	61-56	42
York City	15	11	10	45-35	41
Scunthorpe Utd.	15	11	11	54-44	41
Southport	16	9	11	50-47	41
Gateshead	14	12	11	60-50	40
Halifax Town	12	13	11	53-54	37
Barrow Town	14	9	14	58-59	37
Hartlepool Utd.	12	13	12	43-50	37
Stockport City	13	10	13	68-57	36
Bradford	13	9	14	50-50	35
Tranmere R.	15	5	17	51-51	35
Chesterfield	13	9	15	49-52	35
Mansfield T.	11	11	14	42-52	33
Chester	10	10	15	52-60	30
Workington	10	7	19	44-69	27
Darlington	10	6	20	52-79	26
Rochdale	9	4	23	50-71	22
Accrington	6	9	20	34-68	21

SCOTTISH LEAGUE TABLES

First Division

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
East Fife	14	6	5	58-41	34
Hibernians	15	3	6	75-45	33
*G. RANGERS	13	5	5	58-32	31
Clyde	12	4	11	71-66	28
St. Mirren	10	7	9	45-44	27
Glas Celtic	10	6	9	45-41	26
Dundee	7	11	8	36-33	25
Patrick Thistle	9	7	9	48-53	25
*HEARTS	9	6	11	44-43	24
*ABERDEEN	10	3	13	56-56	23
Raith Rovers	8	7	10	40-41	23
Airdrieonians	9	5	10	42-58	23
Queen of Sth.	8	5	11	34-53	21
Motherwell	8	5	13	49-72	21
*3RD LANARK	8	4	14	47-56	20
Falkirk	8	4	14	43-57	20

*Denotes teams in semi-finals of Scottish Cup.

Second Division

Team	W	D	L	Goals F-A	P
Stirling Albion	18	3	5	57-38	39
Hamilton Acads.	18	2	7	68-39	38
Arbroath Ath.	13	7	6	50-41	33
Ayr United	14	2	10	65-49	30
Kilmarnock	13	2	9	55-35	28
Alloa Athletic	12	4	11	60-60	28
Queen's Park	11	5	8	53-41	27
Morton	12	2	11	62-49	26
Dunfermline	9	8	9	49-51	26
Stenhousemuir	10	6	11	54-56	26
Dundee United	10	4	13	43-50	24
Dumbarton	9	6	13	52-65	24
Cowdenbeath	7	7	13	33-49	21
St. Johnstone	7	6	14	37-58	20
Forfar Ath.	6	3	15	40-72	15
Albion Rovers	4	3	18	39-64	11

All teams now eliminated from Scottish Cup.

Club Notes

MOORABBIN CITY

The Moorabbin club welcomes all its new players for season 1953, and hopes that you will all enjoy today's games.

Noticed among the new faces at training are Derek Toms, late of Prahran, and Noel Reynolds, of South Yarra, while in Peter Walker, from London, a centre-forward we have high hopes of.

The club has been very fortunate in obtaining the use of the Bentleigh football ground and pavilion for training, and it is a pleasure to see the rival codes working in harmony.

The players relish the floodlighting of the ground at night and we could easily play a match as it is as bright as day.

The committee is working very hard and is building up a trust account for the day when the club buys its own ground.

Practice matches played have been against South Melbourne, Navy and Mornington, and we thank those clubs for their kind receptions.

BORDER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The B.D.S.F.A. this season will be stronger than ever. The seven competing teams will be Albury City, Albury United, Wodonga, Bandiana, Mt. Beauty United, R.A.E.M.A. and Tallangatta.

A practice match two weeks ago between Albury City and Albury United ended in a 2-2 draw. Play was of a good standard. Other clubs also are showing excellent form, and it would be hard to hazard a guess as to the 1953 leaders.

First round of matches will be played on April 11.

It is hoped that during the season a Victorian representative team will visit the B.D.S.F.A., for the visit of the Moreland club last season did much to put the game ahead here.

Two Albury schools will be playing soccer this season following the visit of Mr. Dixon, V.A.S.F.A. Director of School Soccer, to Albury. The schools are Albury High and Albury Grammar.

Close liaison is being maintained with some other country associations. It is hoped that the V.A.S.F.A. will initiate another conference with country associations like last year.

LATROBE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting of the Latrobe Valley Association was held on Friday, March 20. The meeting was well attended and gratification was felt at the strength of the soccer movement in the Latrobe Valley. It now seems certain that eight teams, including a new club from Moe, will take the field this year.

Mr. Frank McIvor was elected secretary for the 1953 season and Mr. G. Hooper was appointed to represent the L.V.S.F.A. on the council of the Victorian Amateur Soccer Football Association for 1953 season.

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Junior Section

The Junior Association will not open its 1953 season until next Saturday, April 11.

Many clubs in recent seasons have found it difficult to fill their teams over the Easter holiday period, and clubs may have been in a worse position this year had the season opened in the Easter period, owing to National Service trainees being in camp.

No Junior games will be played on Anzac Day, April 25.

A record number of teams have entered for the 1953 competitions. There will be 48 teams competing in the four age group competitions. The grades will be Under 20, Under 17, Under 15, and Under 14.

New clube affiliated are: South Yarra, I.C.I. (Deer Park), Footscray City, Northcote City, and Moreland.

Owing to the big increase in the Under 17 Division, it has been found necessary to divide it into two sections, "South" and "North."

The compilation of the Divisions are as follows:—

Under 20: Northcote, H.S.O.B., Juventus, Sandringham City, Sunshine United, Box Hill, Moorabbin City, Brighton, Footscray City, Preston, and Maccabi.

Under 17 (South): Prahran, Sandringham City, Brighton "A," Sunshine City, Moorabbin City, Polonia, South Melbourne (Red), South Yarra.

Under 17 (North): Moreland, Preston, Hakoah, Brighton "B," Frankston, South Melbourne (White), Northcote City, Box Hill.

Under 15: I.C.I. (Deer Park), Coburg United, Preston, Moorabbin City, Brighton, Box Hill, Sunshine City, Sunshine United, South Melbourne United, Sandringham City.

Under 14: Coburg United, South Melbourne United, Brighton "A," Brighton "B," Moorabbin City, Sunshine City, Northcote City, Essendon, Box Hill, South Yarra, Prahran, Park Rangers.

Consideration is being given to the staging of an Under 20 Lightning Premiership Carnival. This carnival will be staged on Sunday, April 26, if Olympic Park is available.

Mr. J. Parker, who has held the office of Chairman of the Junior Association since 1949, was elected a Life Member at the Association's annual meeting held in February. Other Life Members are Mr. J. O. Wilshaw and the present secretary, Mr. J. A. Olsen.

Office-bearers of the Junior Association for 1953 are as follows: President, Mr. W. R. Dawnay-Mould; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. Rickerby and Lt.-Col. H. A. Steel; Chairman, J. Parker; Deputy-Chairman, H. Dodman; Secretary, J. A. Olsen; Treasurer, J. Oliphant; Assist.-Secretary and Registrar, G. Ellis.

Executive Committee members elected were A. Scott, N. McFadyen, R. Westley and H. Batterham.

Games this season will be played as follows: Under 20 and Under 17 Divisions will commence at 1.15 p.m. Under 15 and Under 14 games will commence at 10.30 a.m.

Results of games must be telephoned by the home club to the Association's Official Receiver of Results, Mr. J. O. Wilshaw (WF 3915), immediately the games are terminated.

In the Under 14 Division only, the maximum height of the crossbar from the ground will be 7 feet.

In the Under 15 and Under 14 Division games played on regulation senior grounds; corner kicks shall be taken four yards in from the corner flags.

The Pocket Guide to Soccer—The V.A.S.F.A. Handbook

On Sale at this Ground today.

Tartan Topics — continued

Scottish football has gained a new personality in Jack Johnson, a Dane, who has played in Hong Kong, Thailand, Sweden, Norway, Egypt, Italy, China, Holland, Philippines and Belgium with his club team, Odense. He is negotiating with Dundee. (There is some future in football somewhere.)

Turkey invited Motherwell to visit their country in the close season, but the "Firparkers" feel the trip too long. However, they intend making a short tour of France.

Hibs. have made great progress with their grand accommodation. Their record gate, so far, has topped the 70,000 mark!

There are tongues wagging that, in the near future, there will be a new "Super League" in Britain, the idea being that the big clubs in Scotland and England who have floodlighting (or who are prepared to install it) should band themselves together into a mid-week winter league. Rangers and Arsenal would be quite a draw, or, for that part of the matter, Celtic and Blackpool.

Scottish internationalist, Willie Waddell, has been missing for one-third of his club's matches due to muscle trouble. Willie's trouble is he's too sudden off the mark!

Rubber boots, complete with moulded studs, have proved their value in wet weather. Most top clubs have equipped their players with this footwear.

Gordon Smith scored his 300th goal. Record!

"C" Division team, Berwick Rangers, purchased the great Billy Houliston for £2000. Billy must have slipped! And where Berwick got the £2000 from is still a mystery.

Scotland are committed to a tour of the Americas—Internationalists against Argentine, Uruguay, Chili and the United States. It would appear that at long last our folks intend to climb back into the lime-light.

How many readers will remember the great Hughie Gallagher, who in an international match waltzed past five men, including the goal-keeper, before slipping the ball into the net? The exhibition did not end there; without hesitating, he flicked the ball back over the line with his toe into his hands, and then passed it to the bewildered goal-keeper. Remember the forward line—Jackson, Cheyne, Gallagher, Andy Wilson and Jimmy Crawford?

It is my hope that readers of this, "The New Look" Soccer News, will bear with me and realise that, as yet, I have not been able to obtain really up-to-the-minute news, but I hope—as the season gets under way—to furnish you with red-hot "heather blether."

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PENINSULA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

The following information has been received too late for inclusion in the V.A.S.F.A. Handbook:—

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President, Mr. A. Brant, Gipp Street, Rosebud.
Secretary, Mr. E. A. Mount, Pine Winds, Boneo Road, Rosebud.
Treasurer, Mr. C. Coleman, "Lucknow," Albert Street, Mornington Rural.
Colors: White shirts with green and gold V, black shorts, green and white socks.

CLUBS

(a) Rosebud S.C.—
White shirts, blue shorts, blue and white socks.
Mr. B. Mitchell, Weeroona, Rye.

(b) Army School of Apprentices S.C.—
Green shirts with gold V, black shorts, green and gold socks.
Sgt. Robinson, Army Apprentices School, Balcombe.

(c) Army School of Signals—
Light blue shirts, white shorts, dark blue socks.
T. V. Parnell, Army School of Signals, Balcombe.

(d) Mornington S.C.—
Red shirts with white sleeves, white shorts, red and white socks.
Mr. V. Lockwood, Queen Street, Mornington.

(e) Frankston S.C.—
Black and red shirts, white shorts, black and red socks.
Mr. N. Dix, 6 Kelso Street, Frankston.

Location of grounds.—
Rosebud—Recreation Oval, Nepean Highway, Rosebud.
Army Apprentices—Mair's Paddock, Wilson Road, Mornington.
Army School Signals—Pitt's Paddock, Wilson Road, Mornington.
Mornington—Mair's Paddock, Wilson Road, Mornington.
Frankston—Cranbourne Road Oval, Frankston.

Editorial — continued

aired many vexed subjects for Soccer News. Together with Rex Benson, who for the third year conducts his popular "Home and Away" column, are Frank Waghorn, our ace photographer, and Tony Mitchell with his witty cartoons.

An innovation, which will undoubtedly cause quite a stir, is the inclusion of a Page for Women. This will be conducted by Rosa Rothfield. We are sure that this feature will speedily become most popular with our "feminine fans."

This year for the first time Soccer News will be selling officially in Tasmania. To our Tasmanian readers we bid you welcome and hope that you will like Soccer News which has but one idea—to promote the game of soccer wherever it is played, and to sow the round-ball seed wherever it is not.

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TASMANIAN TALKS—*(continued)*

Hobart United looked a good combine at the beginning of the season. The League game I witnessed between them and Caledonians was in my estimation par excellence. It was chock full of thrills and was anybody's game up to the last minute, when the Scots scored the winning goal in the last two minutes. As the season advanced, the United fell from grace and lost their sparkle. Let's wish them all success for the season.

Sandy Bay, under the guidance of that able general, Harry Cooper, came into the reckoning towards the close of the season, but just too late to be among the honors. The Bay were one of the first soccer clubs to be formed in Hobart.

Boyer (Australian Print Mills) were under a cloud last season, and my sympathy went out to Bill Wall, that erstwhile and energetic Scot, in charge. He kept the club going when most managers would have thrown up the sponge. I hope clubs will not take Boyer too cheaply this season, as a whisper comes to me that they will be a force to be reckoned with this year. Yes, let's hope so, for where you only have two strong teams, well it is not good for competitive soccer.

Harking back to Metro, J. Acquaroff is an ex-professional (English). He has seen service with Bury, Norwich City, and guest player with Birmingham and Wolverhampton Wanderers during World War II. He arrived in Hobart in 1949 and joined up with his present club. New signings are Gerhard, from the mainland, and a new inside-forward, a Scot.

COMMENTS by F. N. JOUGHIN,
Secretary Southern Tasmanian Soccer Football Association

Metro won the Southern Tasmanian premiership last season and followed this up by a splendid performance in defeating the Queenstown premiers in a semi-final of the State premiership, and then defeating Paton and Baldwin's, of Launceston, in the final in a very hard fought game. Paton and Baldwin's had defeated the North-West Coast premiers in a semi-final to qualify for the final. The Metro club had quite a successful season, for in addition to this, their Division II team won the Division II knock-out Cup.

Caledonians atoned for their close loss of the premiership in Division I by winning the Falkinder Charity Cup for that Division. They defeated Wanderers, who, despite a very moderate season in general, had an excellent run in the Cup competition, defeating South Hobart and Metro to enter the final, where they were closely defeated by Caledonians.

Australian Newsprint Mills were most unfortunate, but with a more settled position this season, hope to do much better.

South Hobart's Division II team carried off the Southern and the State premiership for their Division.

SOUTHERN TASMANIA SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES—1952 SEASON

First Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Metro	12	10	2	0	54	6	22
Caledonians	12	10	1	1	68	13	21
South Hobart	12	7	1	4	39	24	15
Sandy Bay	12	6	0	6	34	34	12
Wanderers	12	4	0	8	21	50	8
Moonah	12	3	0	9	30	42	6
Aust. N'print Mills	12	0	0	12	7	84	0

Where Soccer Men Forgather

FONTANA'S

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Europe Calling—*(continued)*

return were called Kangaroos (Klokani). Czechoslovakia had many good country teams like Teplitzer S.V. (German), S.C. Pilsen (Czech), and Bratislavia S.C. (Slovak), who played a prominent part in League competition.

Italy became a soccer power after she started to import South Americans of Indian descent, mainly from Argentina. Lately they have switched their attention to Swedish importations. Names like Juventus, Inter (formerly called Ambrosiana), Milan, Roma, Florentina and Torino, which lost all its team in an air disaster two years ago, were the outstanding clubs in Italy. Since the end of the last war, many famous club names have disappeared, and have been superseded by others based on the names of Russian clubs.

All national teams, with the exception of Spain but including Switzerland, participated in an international competition, the Mitropa Cup, in which Italy was the most frequent winner. There was also an international competition for clubs (premiers and runners-up) from each soccer power with the exception of Spain. The most important fixture is a four-yearly world championship (called also the Jules Rimet Cup, after the President of F.I.F.A.) for all countries, notwithstanding their status; the last world championship was played in Brazil in 1950, and 156,000 spectators watched the final, won by Uruguay, Brazil being the runner-up. The next world championship will be played in Switzerland in 1954, and ten countries have already committed themselves to participate, though the entries will not close until January 31, 1954. The best teams among the participants will be Hungary, with Ferenc Puskas, the best soccer forward in 1952; Jugoslavia, probably next to Hungary the best continental team; Germany, who will participate for the first time since 1938, and who is at present one of the most formidable soccer powers in Europe; Spain, which finished fourth in the finals in Rio de Janeiro, and England, who will try to rehabilitate themselves after their poor showing in 1950 in Brazil. It is also expected that teams from Scotland, Wales and other countries will be entered.

The classification for national teams, based on opinions of eight different international sport papers in 1952, is approximately as follows:—

(1) England, (2) Hungary, (3) Germany, (4) France, (5) Jugoslavia, (6) Sweden, (7) Italy, (8) Austria.

The most interesting results achieved by England against the continent in 1952 were as follows:—

England v. Italy, 1.1; England v. Austria, 3.2; and England v. Switzerland, 3.0.

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The Case of Soccer versus The Fence—continued

Whatever the force is that is strong enough to defy the Government of Victoria, it is, I am certain, not really vitally concerned with the fencing of parklands. I think that the people behind other forms of Saturday afternoon sport are deeply disturbed at the rapid progress of soccer. Can it be they see it looming as a menace to the way of life they wish newcomers to Australia to adopt.

New Australians have come here mainly to escape dictatorship, but what do they find? Dictatorship again. We dictate the language they shall speak, where they shall live, and where they shall work, and now apparently intend to direct what form of sport they shall enjoy.

Is this the democratic Australia they are led to believe is the Promised Land? If it is—let's prove it.

The newcomers have given soccer a transfusion service when it was near death. Overnight a puny little game has grown into a virile force in the community.

To prevent the logical expansion of soccer is a pretty low, despicable way of venting spite—and fear and spite invariably walk hand in hand. What sort of people are we if we are going to allow Rudolph and his satellites to throttle us?

Surely no one will admit that the fencing of parklands, or the enclosing of parklands, has any material bearing on a game, because it has been done for years. The M.C.G. is on parklands, Richmond Oval, South Melbourne, and a dozen others. Boat sheds, golf links, and tennis courts are all enclosed; all charge admittance, and without public protest. Yet soccer is stopped at every move.

Soccer's "publicity committee" must get busy and tell the world we are being checkmated at every move.

They must make it clear that soccer is here to stay, and if anybody or any organisation thinks otherwise, they are due for a rude awakening.

Enclosed grounds for soccer must come. It is now the second biggest winter sport for players and spectators alike and they are entitled to a better deal. We are asking for nothing for nothing. We are prepared to pay for what we get, and all we ask for is a fair go.

"Look out Soccer"—you're being got at!

"God give us men: A time like this demands
Men whom the lust of office does not kill.
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy.
Men who possess opinions, and a will.
Men who have honor, men who will not lie."

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